

secures the lever member to the optical scope such that the indicia can be viewed along the lever sightline while the lever member is displaced through a range of movement to adjust the optical scope.

[0014] The present invention is of particular significance when used in connection with a rifle scope, and that application of the present invention is described herein in detail. However, the present invention may also have application to other types of optical scopes such as spotting scopes and rangefinders.

[0015] Numerous other objects, advantages and features of the present disclosure will be readily apparent to those of skill in the art upon a review of the following drawings and description of a preferred embodiment.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

[0016] Non-limiting and non-exhaustive embodiments are described with reference to the following figures, wherein like reference numerals refer to like parts throughout the various drawings unless otherwise specified. In the drawings, not all reference numbers are included in each drawing, for the sake of clarity.

[0017] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of a lever assembly of the present invention shown attached to an exemplar rifle scope.

[0018] FIG. 2 is a partially exploded perspective view of the objects of FIG. 1.

[0019] FIG. 3 is an elevational view of the of the objects of FIG. 1 showing adjustment of the rifle scope as facilitated by the lever assembly.

[0020] FIG. 4 is an isometric view of the lever member of the lever assembly of FIG. 1.

[0021] FIG. 5 is a first end elevational view of the lever member of FIG. 4, with the opposite second end elevation view being identical.

[0022] FIG. 6 is a top plan view of the lever member of FIG. 4.

[0023] FIG. 7 is a first side elevational view of the lever member of FIG. 4, with the opposite second side elevation view being identical.

[0024] FIG. 8 is a bottom plan view of the lever member of FIG. 4.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0025] While the making and using of various embodiments of the present invention are discussed in detail below, it should be appreciated that the present invention provides many applicable inventive concepts that are embodied in a wide variety of specific contexts. The specific embodiments discussed herein are merely illustrative of specific ways to make and use the invention and do not delimit the scope of the invention.

[0026] Those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize numerous equivalents to the specific apparatus and methods described herein. Such equivalents are considered to be within the scope of this invention and are covered by the claims.

[0027] To facilitate the understanding of the embodiments described herein, a number of terms are defined below. The terms defined herein have meanings as commonly understood by a person of ordinary skill in the portions relevant to the present invention. Terms such as “a,” “an,” and “the”

are not intended to refer to only a singular entity, but rather include the general class of which a specific example may be used for illustration. The terminology herein is used to describe specific embodiments of the invention, but their usage does not delimit the invention, except as set forth in the claims.

[0028] This description and appended claims include the words “below,” “above,” “over,” “under,” “side,” “top,” “bottom,” “upper,” “lower,” “when,” “vertical,” “horizontal,” “upright,” etc. to provide an orientation of embodiments of the invention to allow for proper description of example embodiments. The foregoing positional terms refer to the assembly when in the orientation shown in FIG. 1. A person of skill in the art will recognize that the assembly can assume different orientations when in use.

[0029] Similarly, an “upright” position as described herein is considered to be the position of the apparatus or assembly components while in proper operation or in a natural resting position as described and shown herein, for example, in FIG. 1. It is also contemplated that embodiments of the invention may be in orientations other than upright without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims. Further, the terms “above,” “below,” “over,” and “under” mean “having an elevation or vertical height greater or lesser than” and are not intended to imply that one object or component is directly over or under another object or component, unless specifically indicated to the contrary. The term “when” is used to specify orientation for relative positions of components, not as a temporal limitation of the claims or apparatus described and claimed herein unless otherwise specified.

[0030] The phrase “in one embodiment,” as used herein does not necessarily refer to the same embodiment, although it may. Conditional language used herein, such as, among others, “can,” “might,” “may,” “e.g.,” and the like, unless specifically stated otherwise, or otherwise understood within the context as used, is generally intended to convey that certain embodiments include, while other embodiments do not include, certain features, elements and/or states.

[0031] All combinations of method or process steps as used herein can be performed in any order, unless otherwise specified or clearly implied to the contrary by the context in which the referenced combination is made.

[0032] The methods and devices disclosed herein, including components thereof, can comprise, consist of, or consist essentially of the essential elements and limitations of the embodiments described herein, as well as any additional or optional components or limitations described herein or otherwise useful.

[0033] Referring initially to FIGS. 1-3, depicted therein is an embodiment of a lever assembly 20 constructed in accordance with, and embodying, the principles of the present invention. The lever assembly 20 is depicted in FIGS. 1 and 3 as attached to an example optical scope 22. The optical scope 22 is a rifle scope which will typically be attached to a firearm such as a rifle (not shown). As shown in FIG. 2, the lever assembly 20 comprises a lever member 30 and a mounting member 32. The lever assembly 20 further defines a lever opening 34 through which extends a lever sightline 36. FIGS. 1 and 3 illustrate that the lever assembly 20 is detachably attached to the optical scope 22 such that a lever axis L associated with the lever sightline 36 is substantially parallel to and spaced from a scope axis S defined by the optical scope 22.